

I claim:

1. A geometric reconfiguration assembly for a natural heart, comprising:

a collar configured for surrounding the natural heart and having a plurality of bands in a spaced relationship; and

a connector bar intersecting the plurality of bands and configured for maintaining the spaced relationship of the bands to each other.

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2. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the connector bar comprises an inner surface having an outwardly convex curved configuration.
3. The assembly of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of bands are positioned parallel to each other.
4. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the assembly comprises from about 2 to about 10 bands.
5. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the bands comprise a high strength, high modulus polymer.
6. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the bands comprise a metal.

7. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the connector bar is positioned tangential to the plurality of bands.
8. The assembly of claim 1, wherein at least one of the bands has a thickness of about .2 mm.
9. The assembly of claim 1, wherein each of the bands includes a thickness, and the connector bar comprises a plurality of grooves configured to receive the thickness of each of the plurality of bands.
10. The assembly of claim 9, wherein the connector bar comprises at least one beveled groove.
11. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the connector bar comprises a cushioned portion.
12. The assembly of claim 1, comprises a closure device for enclosing at least one of the bands in the connector bar.
13. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the collar comprises a first restrictor region configured to be positioned adjacent the anterolateral surface of the heart and a second restrictor region configured to be positioned adjacent posteromedial surface of the heart.
14. The assembly of claim 11, wherein the cushion portion comprises a polymeric material.

15. The assembly of claim 1, wherein said assembly comprises a pad provided adjacent the inner surface of the connector bar.

16. The assembly of claim 15, wherein the pad comprises a low durometer polymer.

17. The assembly of claim 15, wherein the pad comprises a cushion.

18. The device of claim 17, wherein the cushion comprises a gel-filled cushion.

19. The assembly of claim 17, wherein the cushion comprises a fluid-filled cushion.

20. A geometric reconfiguration assembly for a natural heart, comprising;

a collar for surrounding a portion of the natural heart, said collar having a portion configured for placement on the basal portion of the natural heart in between the left and right pulmonary veins, said collar further comprising an attachment assembly configured for releasably connecting said collar together.

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21. The assembly of claim 20, wherein the collar comprises an inner surface having a outwardly convex curve configuration.

22. The assembly of claim 20, wherein the attachment system comprises a pin and receptacle, said pin and receptacle being releasably detachable.

23. A geometric reconfiguration assembly for a natural heart, comprising
a collar configured for surrounding the natural heart, said collar having a first
restrictor region for placement adjacent the anterolateral surface of the heart, and
a second restrictor region configured for positioning adjacent the posteromedial
5 surface of the heart; the first and second restrictor portions each comprising a
plurality of bands in a space relationship and a connector bar intersecting the
plurality of band and configured for maintaining the space relationship of the
bands to each other.
24. The assembly of claim 23, wherein the collar comprises a first and second connector
10 portion configured for placement adjacent the basal portion of the heart and a second
connector portion configured for a position adjacent the apical portion of the epicardium
of the heart.
25. A method for reducing wall tension on one of the chambers of the heart, comprising the
steps of
providing a geometric reconfiguration assembly; and
surrounding one of the chambers of the heart with a geometric configuration
assembly.
26. The method of claim 25, comprising the step of occluding blood inflow into the heart
prior to placement of the assembly around the chamber of the heart.